FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 JULY 1984

Lebanon

Security Situation — Two airliners without passengers landed at Beirut airport on 9 July in accordance with a 7 July decision by Public Works and Transport Minister Walid Junblatt, Beirut radio reported. However, the families of kidnapped persons have blockaded the approach road as well as other roads, the radio added. Voice of Lebanon radio pointed out that these protesters also blocked all of the crossing points between the two sectors of Beirut. The crossing points had been opened on 8 July, Beirut radio noted. Responding to these developments, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, affirmed the council's commitment to investigate the kidnapping charges, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio claimed that the Lebanese Forces refused to release all the kidnapped persons and would not submit name lists to the committees concerned with the issue. However, a Lebanese Forces official stated that the Lebanese Forces are annoyed over the delay in releasing the detainees and are ready to help resolve the issue, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Former President Camille Sham'un added that irresponsible people are using the issue for their own interests, according to Beirut radio. In an effort to solve the problem, all parties concerned will attend a 9 July meeting at the security arrangements committee headquarters, Information and acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf disclosed in a statement cited by the radio.

As for the security situation in Beirut, a bomb explosion wounded nine persons on 8 July, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio had also reported a car bomb explosion in Jubayl on 6 July that killed three persons and injured two.

Lebanese-USSR Meetings — Minister Junblatt returned to Lebanon on 7 July after a 6 July meeting in the Soviet Union with Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, Beirut radio reported. Junblatt also met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus on 7 July, Damascus radio reported.

The Soviet charge d'affairs in Beirut received Nabih Birri and discussed Birri's upcoming visit to the USSR, Beirut radio reported.

Israel

The IDF spokesman denied as "totally unfounded" the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine's claim that Israeli POW Samir As'ad was killed in the 27 June Israeli air raid on an island near Tripoli, asserting in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio that the DFLP had no base on the island and that if the POW is indeed dead, he was murdered in cold blood or in other grave circumstances. The DFLP leaders bear full responsibility for the prisoner's life, the spokesman warned, and if As'ad was really killed, Israel will not remain silent but will make those responsible pay for the "horrendous atrocity." However, in a statement from Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo, DFLP spokesman reaffirmed his organization's version of the POW's death and described the IDF spokesman's statement as "baseless and illogical."

In another development, senior Israeli security sources denied the London weekly *OBSERVER*'s story that Israel and Syria are currently negotiating through a third party over security arrangements in Lebanon, *HA'ARETZ* reported. Regarding the arrest of two Israelis in Britain in connection with the attempt to kidnap former Nigerian Transport Minister Umaru Dikko, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman denied any official Israeli involvement in the affair, *DAVAR* noted.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman on 8 July and met with Jordan's King Husayn, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Their talks covered recent developments in the Palestinian question and the Iran-Iraq war. As for the PLO's relations with Syria, PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi described his recent talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus as "positive, successful, and promising," according to KUNA, and he quoted Syrian President al-Asad as saying that 'Arafat's position as PLO leader is a purely Palestinian issue in which Syria has no say. Confirming that a Fatah delegation will visit Damascus shortly, Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf disclosed in a press statement cited by QNA that the delegation will conduct intensive negotiations with the Syrians on bilateral relations and will prepare for a visit to Syria by 'Arafat. In a recent interview with Budapest television, 'Arafat expressed willingness to visit Damascus, asserting that "there is no eternal enmity in politics."

Egypt

Egypt and the Soviet Union have agreed to exchange ambassadors, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry announced on 7 July in a statement reported by Cairo radio. Salah Basyuni will be Egypt's ambassador in Moscow while Aleksandr Belonogov will be the Soviet ambassador in Cairo. Belonogov arrived in Cairo the same day, according to SPA. In another development, the Cairo paper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* disclosed that Egypt has nominated an ambassador to Bulgaria as part of a move to restore relations with that country, MENA reported.

Meanwhile, Egypt recalled its charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv for consultations in Cairo, though Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said that "extreme conclusions must not be drawn" from this move, according to the Tel Aviv paper *YEDIOT AHARANOT*.

Sudan

Following recent Libyan reports that the Sudanese People's Liberation Army has captured various areas in the south, Staff Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib announced in remarks reported by SUNA that the Sudanese Armed Forces are in "full control" of those areas.

Gulf Conflict

GCC Warning, Defense — Although the GCC can tolerate "occasional random attacks," any blockade of GCC ports or attacks on GCC shipping inside those ports or outside territorial waters will be treated as 'a declaration of war," GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah affirmed in remarks reported by KUNA on 8 July. Earlier, military delegations from Oman, the UAE, and Qatar, arrived in Kuwait to attend a meeting of the directors of operations in the GCC states' armies, Kuwait radio noted. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia signed an agreement to purchase 40 Tornado aircraft from Britain, according to Tehran radio.

Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim flew to Moscow on 9 July at the invitation of his Soviet counterpart, Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, KUNA reported. A Soviet Defense Ministry spokesman cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* said the Kuwaiti-Soviet talks will be very important, adding that the Soviet Union is willing to study all Kuwait's requests for missiles and other modern weapons, according to KUNA.

Japanese Protest — The Japanese Foreign Ministry summoned an Iranian Embassy official in Tokyo to protest the 5 July attack on a Japanese-chartered tanker in the Gulf and to urge Iran not to attack commercial shipping in the area, KYODO reported.

Baghdad Bombing — the Iranian-sponsored "Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq," in a statement reported by IRNA, claimed that its fighters killed "tens of Iraqi agents" in a 6 July truck bomb attack on the Baghdad headquarters of the Iraqi People's Army. Monitored Iraqi media have not mentioned any such attack.

Iranian Oil Exports — The Iraqi Armed Forces possess the ability to destroy the loading installations and jetties at Khark Island and will do this if and when they are ordered to do so, the Iraqi Air Force commander asserted in an interview broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. However, Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi told Tehran radio that Khark Island enjoys "total security" and that "certain military difficulties" at the island have not prevented Iran from exporting oil and maintaining its OPEC output quota. At the forthcoming meeting of OPEC oil ministers in Vienna, Iran will insist on increasing oil prices from $29 per barrel to $34, Gharazi stated in another interview with the radio prior to his departure for Vienna.

Iran's Offensive — Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio, said that Iran will launch its "final attack" whenever it is expedient to do so, and this could be in a year's time, in 2 months, or "today." While contending that Iran has pinpointed Iraq's "vulnerable points" along the border and has given its forces the necessary training and weapons, he indicated that Iran does not want to be drawn into a hasty attack before it has mustered its full capabilities. The Majlis speaker also denied reports of differences between himself and President 'Ali Khamene'i, stating that "whatever decision is taken by the president I will confirm without studying it."

For Iraq's part, Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz told journalists in Baghdad attending an "international conference" on the Gulf war that Iraq will crush any Iranian "adventure" and this is one of the reasons why its opponent is very hesitant to launch an offensive, INA reported.

Iran

Extradition Warning — An Iranian Foreign Ministry official cited by Tehran radio asserted that the French-Iranian extradition treaty obliges France to hand over the "non-political criminals" who hijacked an Iranian Fokker-27 aircraft to France last month. France's acceptance of the hijackers as political refugees is in violation of international law, he contended, and such disregard can create the right to "retaliatory action."

Electricity Shortage — An Energy Ministry announcement reported by Tehran radio urged electricity users to economize because the national grid is facing "great limitations" as a result of high demand and low output due to the drought.

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Masud Letter Claims Soviet Panjsher Offensive Failed

OW082345 Hong Kong AFP in English 2305 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] Islamabad, July 8 (AFP) — A new Soviet offensive against Moslem guerrillas in Afghanistan's Panjsher valley has failed and left the Soviets "totally disorganized and exhausted to a large degree," a guerrilla spokesman claimed today in releasing a letter from a rebel leader.

The letter from commander Ahmad Shah Masud to his supporters in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar said Soviet and Afghan Government troops suffered heavy casualties in fierce fighting in the north of the valley late last month and that part of the Panjsher was "still unconquered."

Commander Masud, who had not been heard from for two months, contradicted reports that the guerrillas had ceded the area to Soviet-Afghan forces. His letter said that the latter controlled less than 30 km (18 miles) of the 100-km (60-mile) long valley.

The spokesman said the letter was written on June 26 after five days of continuous fighting in the valley. It claimed that the guerrillas shot down two helicopters and one Soviet jet during the battle and destroyed 50 vehicles, including some tanks.

He said that about a dozen guerrillas were killed in the Soviet ground and air attacks on resistance positions.

Although claiming the Soviets were exhausted, the spokesman said they were preparing yet another offensive in the Panjsher.

Rebels Crushed in Jowzjan, Konarha Provinces

LD071503 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] A number of counterrevolutionaries were recently crushed in Tash Gozar and (Kalan Teba) villages of Sar-e Pol District, Jowzjan Province, by the officers and troops of the tribal regiment and the security forces of that district.

A source in that district said that eight weapons and a quantity of ammunition, one rocket-launcher with three shells, and six horses were seized by the security forces from these murderers and saboteurs.

According to another report from Asadabad, capital of Konarha Province, a number of traitors to the homeland, the people, and the revolution, who were disrupting the peace and security of the people of a village in (Sawki) district of that province, were captured by the security forces with the cooperation of the people. Their leaders, Ali Mohammad, Gol Mohammad, Hasan, and Tawab, were also captured along with their weapons.

Other Security Force Successes

LD081739 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] Kabul, 8 Jul (BAKHTAR) — Brave security forces are intensifying their fatal and crushing blows on counterrevolutionaries and are creating peaceful and secure conditions in the country's villages.

A BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a source in the Farah Province security force, reports that a number of rebels were recently crushed during operations carried out by the vigilant security forces in Joveyn District of that province. The security force seized one DShK, one rocket-launcher with 10 shells, 12 assorted weapons, and a number of anti-state documents which show their links with Western countries.

According to another report, as a result of operations carried out by the security forces of Faryab Province, a number of rebels were crushed in (Kuhi), Posht-e (Arzaf), Besh (Ja'fa), (Naqdari Qala) and Sufi (Qala) villages of that province. The security forces seized 25 assorted weapons, 1 rocket-launcher and 9 antipersonnel mines, and destroyed a quantity of weapons and ammunition.

Similarly, as a result of successful operations carried out by the security forces in (Malan) village of (Nezam-e Shahid), Herat Province, a number of armed rebels belonging to the criminal Jami'at band were crushed. The security forces seized two heavy American machine guns, eight weapons and a number of anti-state documents.

A source of Balkh Province's security force reports that a number of armed rebels belonging to the criminal Islami band were crushed in the course of operations carried out in Rayan village of Balkh District, Balkh Province, and five weapons and two vehicles were seized from them and one foodstuffs depot was destroyed. Also, a number of armed rebels were crushed in Konduz Province during security forces operations, and a number of weapons and ammunition were seized.

The BAKHTAR information agency reports that those of our deceived compatriots who have now realized the truth of the April Revolution and the lofty aims of the PDPA, taking advantage of the DRA Revolutionary Council's amnesty decree and the message of the nationwide session of the social personalities of the country's tribes and nationalities, are joining the revolutionary government. Based on this, a 10-man-strong group, led by (Zahangi) the teacher, broke their links with the Jami'at-e Islami band and came over to the side of the party and government in Khenjan sub-district. They have also surrendered their arms. Similarly, another armed group, led by (Gholam Mokhtar), came over to the side of the people and the revolution in Bamian Province.

In addition, four of our deceived compatriots, who for some time had links with the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Islami band, recently surrendered with their arms to the security forces. They have pledged to defend the gains of the revolution to the last breath and to struggle against the mercenary rebel bands.

Materials on Reactions to Airliner Hijacking

Inquiry Ordered; Airbus Returns

BK070324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The minister for civil aviation, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, has said that the government is inquiring into the alleged laxity in security arrangements at Srinagar airport. The minister, who was replying to a question asked by a correspondent at Delhi airport last evening, said that the government of Jammu and Kashmir is also looking into it. He has asked for full details.

He thanked the Pakistani authorities for extending cooperation in the release of the passengers. He said that during the negotiations the hijackers never stuck to their demands. They kept shifting and increasing them.

All the 247 passengers and crew of 9 of the hijacked Indian Airlines Airbus returned to New Delhi from Lahore last evening. The Indian Airlines airbus arrived in New Delhi a little later after the passengers were back home in a Pakistan International Airlines aircraft. The Indian Airlines airbus was brought back to Delhi by Captain Bhasin, who was specially flown to Lahore.

Some passengers told our correspondent that the hijackers forced them to remain cooped up in their seats throughout their ordeal. A loud voice was heard when the plane was hijacked. There was a scuffle and two passengers were injured, one of them an Army major. They said the hijackers had threatened to blow up the plane just 5 minutes before they surrendered. The flight engineer, Mr P.N. Mahajan, said the hijackers fired at him and the bullet grazed his back. He was also hit with a knife on his head when he resisted their attempt to enter the cockpit. Our correspondent reports the passengers were highly appreciative of the help rendered by the Pakistani authorities. Some of the foreigners described it as a frightening experience, as they said that the hijackers were madmen who were desperate enough to do anything.

The Pakistani ambassador in New Delhi has expressed relief that all the passengers and crew members were able to return home safely. He said that Pakistani authorities were in constant touch with their counterparts in getting the passengers released. Radio Pakistan said there were eight hijackers. They surrendered unconditionally and are presently under the custody of the Pakistani authorities.

Pakistan Considering Extradition Request

BK090851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] Pakistan will consider India's request for the return of the hijackers of the Indian Airlines Airbus under the provisions of the international law. This was stated by the Pakistan foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, while speaking to our correspondent, Sunder Singh Sethi, during his brief stopover at Delhi airport this morning. He said there are in all nine hijackers who have been identified. He, however, did not elaborate.

Mr Yaqub Khan said one of the hijackers is ill and is in hospital. He said he will discuss with his Indian counterpart ways and means to remove doubts and misgivings between two countries.

PTI: Sikhs Trained in Pakistan

BK071224 Hong Kong AFP in English 1202 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Excerpts] New Delhi, July 7 (AFP) — Four Sikhs among the eight people who hijacked an Indian Airlines Airbus on Thursday belonged to Kashmir State and had been trained in Pakistan, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today.

The agency, quoting official sources in Srinagar, said the four young Sikhs had been members of the banned All-India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) and had been trained in hijacking and commando tactics at camps organised in Pakistan.

The PTI office in Srinagar, contacted by telephone, could not say if the camps were (?in occupied) Kashmir or in other parts of the country.

The agency identified the four Sikhs as Dalip Singh, chief organiser of the AISSF, Gurdev Singh Pardesi, and two men both called Ravinder Singh. Two come from Jammu and two from Srinagar, summer capital of Kashmir.

Srinagar Under Control After Curfew Reimposed

BK081613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] The situation in Srinagar city continues to be under control. As already reported, curfew was reimposed in Srinagar city yesterday evening as a precautionary measure following attempts by some miscreants to disturb the peace. Curfew has been relaxed in Srinagar city from 2000 to 2300 tonight.

Meanwhile, the Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Mr Ghulam Mohammad Shah, has reported that his government will provide a clean and dedicated administration to the people. Addressing a public meeting at (Tral), Mr Shah accused the previous government of misusing resources and maladministration.

Police Fire on Party Followers in Agartala

BK071634 Hong Kong AFP in English 1611 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] New Delhi, July 7 (AFP) — Police today opened fire and issued prohibitory orders in Agartala, capital of Tripura in the northeast, to quell continued clashes between the supporters of state's ruling Communist Party (Marxist) [CPI-M] and Congress (I) which left two persons dead and several others injured, reports said.

While official sources said three people were injured in the firing, CPI-M State Committee claimed eight of their partymen were injured in the firing and demanded an enquiry into it, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The trouble began yesterday when a worker belonging to the CPI-M-controlled trade union was hacked to death in an armed clash with a rival group near a jute mill at Amtoli area, the report said. The situation deteriorated this morning when a 150-strong procession, carrying the body of the worker, was attacked by the rival group with lethal weapons. One person was stabbed to death and several others were injured in the clash. One house was burnt down and some shops were looted around the jute mill and vehicular traffic to the south of the district came to a standstill, the report said.

The CPI-M State Committee today gave a call for a 12-hour strike in Agartala on Monday in protest against the incident, PTI added.

State Orders Inquiry

Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] The Tripura government has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the Amtoli incidents in which two persons were killed and several injured. The chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakraborty, told newsmen in Agartala that the situation is now under control.

The president has given his assent to the Tripura State Rifles Bill, 1983. It will enable the state government to raise a paramilitary outfit specially trained to counter insurgency operations.

Over 100 Punjab Police Forced To Retire

BK071720 Hong Kong AFP in English 1714 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] New Delhi, July 7 (AFP) — Over 100 police personnel, including junior-level officers, were compulsorily retired in Punjab on the basis of their "bad records" since last two weeks [as received], reports said. Of this, 51 police personnel have been sacked in Ferozepore District, bordering Pakistan, alone, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported today.

The retirements are believed to be part of the screening of the police force launched in the state in the wake of reports that some police personnel were involved in smuggling activities and helping Sikh militants.

Security forces apprehended six suspected terrorists and recovered arms and ammunition from them today, PTI said. According to PTI, out of 4,508 people apprehended by security forces since the Army operations began in the state early last month, include 310 women and 135 children. [sentence as received] Over 3,000 including 262 women and 120 children had been released so far.

Meanwhile, the white paper to be issued by the government is likely to throw light on Sikh militant activity which led to be Army action in Golden Temple in Amritsar to flush out these elements and other places in the state. The paper, expected to be issued tomorrow, is likely to include the number of persons killed in Punjab including Army men, the number of weapons captured and reasons which forced the government to act in such a firm manner, [and] would help in dispelling fears and rumours, PTI said.

Special Powers Act Extended

BK070902 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] Punjab and the union territory of Chandigarh have been declared as disturbed areas for another 3 months under the Armed Forces Punjab and Chandigarh Special Powers Act 1983. According to a notification issued in Chandigarh today, this has been done as these areas continue to be under disturbed conditions and the use of armed forces in aid of civil powers has been found necessary. Under the notification, security forces can enter any area without warrant and search premises suspected of being used for wrongful confinement of any person or for search of arms, ammunition, and other explosive material. It also empowers the security forces to search and seize any vehicle suspected of being used for carrying proclaimed offenders.

Akali Dal Calls for Army To Vacate Golden Temple

BK090842 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Textll In Chandigarh, the ad hoc committee of the Akali Dal met yesterday evening. Briefing newsmen, the chairman of committee, Mr Prakash Singh Majithia, said the meeting demanded immediate withdrawal of the security forces from the Golden Temple complex and wanted its management to be handed over to the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee. Meanwhile, 15 more suspected terrorists have been arrested from different parts of the state since yesterday. Some arms and ammunition have also been recovered from them.

Parties Demand Dissolution of Kashmir Assembly

BK061429 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The 7-member delegation of national opposition parties has demanded the dissolution of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly and holding of fresh elections. Addressing a joint press conference in Srinagar today, the general secretary of the Communist Party of India, Mr Rajeswar Raw, said that the combined opposition has expressed its solidarity with Dr Farooq Abdullah.

Congress-I Scores Opposition Role in Kashmir

BK080712 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] A Congress-I press release says that disclosures from the Golden Temple complex, recent incidents in Kashmir, and hijacking of the Indian Airlines Airbus indicate an increase in the antinational and antisocial activities. It says the opposition parties have failed to realize the gravity of the situation. It criticized the opposition leaders' visit to Srinagar to extend their support to Dr Farooq Abdullah.

Karachi Reviews Sikh Hijacking of Indian Airbus

BK061626 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Excerpts] A special Pakistan International Airlines DC-10 plane which took off from Lahore with the passengers of the hijacked Indian plane at 1820 [1320 GMT] this evening has arrived in New Delhi.

Earlier, the eight hijackers of the Indian Airbus unconditionally surrendered themselves to Pakistani authorities at 1215 [0715 GMT] at Lahore today. The Airbus A-300 was forced to land at the Lahore Airport yesterday evening after hijacking it while on a Srinagar-New Delhi flight yesterday. The hijackers, before surrendering themselves to the authorities, had released all the passengers, including children and women. The Pakistan Government had informed the Indian Government of the successful completion of the process of negotiations which culminated in the release of all the passengers and crew on board.

Following the unconditional surrender of hijackers of the Indian plane to the authorities and the release of passengers, a Pakistani spokesman told newsmen that Pakistani authorities had endeavored to ensure that all the passengers and crew and the plane remained safe and none of them were harmed. The situation was contained in a very prudent manner. The spokesman said that the hijackers had presented some demands and set a deadline. They told the authorities at midnight yesterday that if their demands were not met, they would start throwing dead bodies from the plane. In addition, they insisted on refuelling the plane. They spokesman said that the hijackers were clearly told that despite their threat to blow up the plane, they would not be provided with food and the plane would not be refuelled. The hijacking incident was tackled very well as a result of continued negotiations with the hijackers.

The spokesman said that all eight of the hijackers have been taken into custody and have been handed over to the law enforcement agency; they will be dealt with according to the law.

Indian Ambassador to Pakistan K.D. Sharma appreciated Pakistan's efforts in connection with safe release of passengers and the crew of the hijacked Indian plane. He said that the Governments of Pakistan and India cooperated in tackling the incident very well. He said that although he was not in the group negotiating with the hijackers, he is very thankful to the Pakistani Government for always keeping him informed of the negotiations.

All the passengers of the hijacked Indian plane also highly appreciated the Pakistani authorities' efforts to ensure the safety of the Indian passengers.

The leader of the hijackers, (Parminder Singh) alias (Harfan Maula), after surrendering himself to the authorities said in an interview that the hijacking of the plane was aimed at highlighting Sikh demands, which include the withdrawal of Indian forces from the Golden Temple and the return of funds and precious rarities [nawadir] robbed by the Indian Army from the Golden Temple. The leader of the hijacking said that they have released the passengers on humanitarian grounds. They had arms and explosives and they could have blown the plane up. But they did not do so because their struggle is not against innocent people. He said that the flight engineer of the plane was not wounded by a pistol shot but by a kirpan [knife usually used by Sikhs] and that only one shot was fired in the plane, and that hit the cockpit door.

Indian Airlines has suspended all its flights to Srinagar today after the incident of the Indian aircraft hijacking.

Case Filed Against Hijackers

BK070852 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] A case has been filed against the eight hijackers of the Indian Airlines Airbus A-300 at south cantonment police station of Lahore. The case has been filed under the Foreigners Act and related sections of the Pakistani Penal Code. The hijackers surrendered themselves unconditionally to the authorities yesterday, after which they were handed over to the law enforcement agency.

Indian Information Minister Meets With Officials

Welcomed by Counterpart

BK080614 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] The Indian information and broadcasting minister, H.K.L. Bhagat, arrived in Lahore this evening from New Delhi on a week-long goodwill visit to Pakistan. He is accompanied by an 8-member delegation including senior officials of the Indian Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Radio and Television. At the airport, he was received by the federal minister for information and broadcasting, Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq, and senior officials of the Punjab Government.

In a written statement at the airport, the Indian information minister said he was glad to be in Pakistan and had brought greetings and good wishes of the president, the prime minister, and the government and people of India. Mr Bhagat said cordial, cooperative, and good neighborly relations between our two countries would be in the interest of our two peoples. They also believed that a positive and constructive turn in the Indo-Pakistan relations is also desirable and possible.

He reiterated the Indian Government's appreciation and thanks for the timely help extended by the Pakistan Government in dealing with the hijacking of the Indian Airlines Airbus. The recent events, he said, have shown how a positive and a sincere approach to matters of common concern contribute toward creation of trust and confidence.

On the other hand, the coverage by Pakistan official media including television of recent developments in India caused doubts and misgivings in our minds. We were particularly distressed by some of the statements made by responsible Pakistan spokesmen which were inconsistent with the policy of noninterference and [words indistinct] that all this have resulted in much

public pressure on me not to undertake this visit at this juncture. My prime minister asked me to go ahead with the visit and said that we must persevere in our effort in seeking amity and understanding.

The Indian information and broadcasting minister said he was looking forward to personally convey India's message of goodwill to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and to discuss in details matters of mutual interest with his counterpart Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq.

Meeting With Ziaul Haq

BK090941 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] The information and broadcasting minister, Mr Bhagat, called on President Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi last evening. They had a general discussion on improving Indo-Pakistan ties. General Zia welcomed the agreement arrived at between the information ministers of the two countries and expressed the hope that they would be carried out speedily. He expressed the view that there is no way out except friendship between the two countries.

Gen Zia agreed to go into the question of increasing the exchange of films. He said he would refer to the concerned minister Mr Bhagat's request that Pakistan should consider early the draft of the cultural agreement submitted by India at the joint commission in June last year.

Mr Bhagat conveyed to the Pakistan president the greetings of Giani Zail Singh and Mrs Gandhi.

As already reported, India and Pakistan have agreed to take steps to prevent propaganda against each other. The information ministers of the two countries during their meeting yesterday also decided to mutually produce and exchange radio and TV programs. Radio and TV teams of the two countries are to meet every 3 months to monitor and review the progress in this regard.

Information Ministers Hold Talks

BK081134 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] The minister for information and broadcasting, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, now in Islamabad, had talks for more than an hour with the Pakistan minister for information, Raja Zafarul Haq. The talks, which concluded a short while ago, covered various proposals for encouraging the media to play a positive role in promoting greater understanding and friendship between the two countries.

All-India Radio's special correspondent, (Anata Charlu), reporting from Islamabad, says that Mr Bhagat is understood to have made a pointed reference to the misgivings caused in India by the Pakistani press and television coverage of the recent developments in Punjab, and said such things should be avoided in future in the larger interest of good relations between the two countries. Mr Bhagat has made some proposals to achieve this.

The secretary of the ministry of information and broadcasting, Mr S.S. Gill, Mr Manishankar Iyer, joint secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, and the Indian ambassador in Pakistan, Mr K.D. Sharma, assisted Mr Bhagat in the talks.

Raja Zafarul Haq is hosting a lunch in honor of Mr Bhagat this afternoon. Mr Bhagat is scheduled to call on President Zia in Rawalpindi late this evening.

Foreign Minister To Visit China 22 Jul

BK081530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan will pay a 5-day visit to China from 22 July at the invitation of Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. During his stay in Beijing the foreign minister will hold talks with his Chinese counterpart and exchange views on the international situation and matters of mutual interest.

Radio Pakistan's correspondent says that Pakistan and China enjoy relations of friendship and cooperation which are based on mutual confidence and understanding. Formal and frequent (?high-level) exchanges of visits between the two countries reflect the desire to strengthen that friendship. It may be recalled that the Chinese foreign minister visited Pakistan in July 1983.

Baluchistan Governor in Critical Condition After Crash

BK070244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] The Cessna aircraft of the Baluchistan governor crashed due to bad weather near Mankera in Bhakkar District yesterday. An official statement issued in Rawalpindi says Baluchistan Governor Lieutenant General Sardar S. F. Lodhi, who was on board the plane, was rushed to the civil hospital of Bhakkar where he is being given all possible medical assistance. It is reported that his condition is critical. The other three persons — Governor's Aide-de-Camp Amir Akber, Pilot (Haider Yani), and copilot Nadir Imtiaz — were killed in the accident.

Iranian Refugees Demonstrate in Karachi

GF081402 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Jul 84 p 8

[Text] Karachi, July 2 — The "Protest Committee of Iranian Refugees" have alleged that some of the Iranian refugees in Karachi picketing outside the UN offices were removed by police. According to a press release they were demanding release of other Iranian refugees allegedly held for demonstrating at the UN offices.

Local UN officials were not available for comment.

The committee said in the press release that police were called by the UN officials to remove the Iranians who were protesting for the last 13 days.

BANGLADESH

Trespassing Indian Forces Open Fire at Border, Kill 2

BK090718 Hong Kong AFP in English 0714 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] Dhaka, July 9 (AFP) — Indian Border Security Forces killed two Bangladesh nationals and injured one when they opened fire in an incident on the northeastern section of their common border, *THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER* reported today.

The paper said that Security Force personnel (BSF) trespassed on Bangladesh territory in the Jaintiapur area yesterday and tried to force farmers to stop tilling the land.

During the arguments that followed, the BSF men opened fire from 10 yards (nine metres), killing two Bangladeshis and injuring one, the paper said.

The sector commander of the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) — the country's border guards — was reported to have lodged a protest notewith his Indian counterpart over the incident.

SRI LANKA

Terrorists Kill Three Tamil Youths Near Jaffna

BK091103 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] Terrorists in the north yesterday gunned down three Tamil youths in their routine executions on their own people. The police said that the three youths were harijans, or low caste Hindus, and were shot dead in separate incidents near Jaffna.

A terrorist group which claimed responsibility for the killing left marks in the bodies describing that it killed an antisocial element.

These ruthless killings have caused great revulsion among the people of Jaffna. Three victims were all young men around 20 years of age and two of them were closely related.

Ampara Police Station Attacked

BK061233 Hong Kong AFP in English 1219 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Colombo, July 6 (AFP) — A massive air sea and land search has been launched for an estimated seven people who attacked a police station about 125 miles (225 kilometers) from here, *THE SUN* newspaper reported today.

The government said yesterday that two policemen were injured and arms and ammunition stolen in the Wednesday's attack in the eastern district of Ampara.

Police today said one person was killed and seven injured in three bomb explosions the same night, in the northern towns of Chunnakam and Jaffna. It is not known who was responsible for the attacks, police said.

Olympic Team Said To Receive Death Threat From KKK

BK091059 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] The National Olympic Council of Sri Lanka has received a letter from the Ku Klux Klan in the United States threatening Sri Lankan athletes with death if they participate in the Los Angeles Olympic Games.

Mr (Prema Pinnavella), secretary of the Council, told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation that the letter sent by the Klan had the U.S. postmark. He added that the four-member Sri Lanka team had already left for the Olympic Games.

Ku Klux Klan is a white racist organization which operates mainly in the southern part of the United States.

Nepal Foreign Minister Arrives, Calls on Jayewardene

BK061129 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Nepal, Padma Bahadur Khatri, arrived in Colombo last night on a 3-day official visit to Sri Lanka. The Nepalese minister was met by his counterpart, Shahul Hameed, last night at the hotel where he is staying. The visiting minister called on President Jayewardene this morning at 1030 at the Presidential Secretariat.

Censorship on Reports by Foreign Newsmen Lifted

BK061205 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The government has relaxed the press censorship which was imposed last month under emergency condition. However, the local media will have to follow the guidelines under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and observe appropriate restraint in the publication of material relating to terrorist activities, the actions or plans of the security forces, and material prejudicial to national harmony and public order. The actions of or actions relating to students at universities or other educational institutions will need approval before they are reported. The censorship on reports by foreign correspondents has been lifted.

Briefs

Swedish Grant — Sweden is providing Sri Lanka with 1.65 billion rupees as an outright grant. According to the external resources division of the Ministry of Finance and Planning, it is one of the largest ever made by Sweden. It pointed out that approximately 1.53 billion rupees will be used for the (?Kotmale) project. Other areas in which the assistance will be given are the education and integrated rural development projects. [Text] [Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 5 Jul 84 BK]

IRNA: Iraqi Amal Group Bombs Army HQ in Baghdad

LD070844 Tehran IRNA in English 0840 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 7, IRNA — Iraqi mujahideen drove a truck loaded with 100 kilograms of TNT against the headquarters of the so-called Iraqi People's Army in Baghdad Friday, killing tens of Iraqi agents, a statement by a major Iraqi opposition group reported.

It said scores of Iraqi agents were injured in the attack and several ammunition and weapons depots at the headquarters were set ablaze.

The statement, issued by the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), said the attack took place at 04:30 hours Tehran local time (0100 GMT) in the Za'faraniyah district of the Iraqi capital.

The "Martyr Fallahi" group belonging to the Islamic Amal (Action) Organization of Iraq carried out the operation and warned arrogant governments, especially France and its agents in the region, to stop their financial and military backing of the Iraqi regime, it added.

"They must understand that Saddam is not going to stay," the statement said.

An Iraqi mujahideen spokesman said here that ten commanders of the Iraqi "People's Army" were among those killed in the attack. Such operations would fiercely continue until the overthrow of the Iraqi regime, he said.

So far the Iraqi regime has made no comment on yesterday's operation by the mujahideen, while foreign media have also kept silent over the incident.

AFP Provides Background on Group

NC070924 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Tehran, July 7 (AFP) — The nine-year-old Iraqi Islamic Amal Movement, which says it is not connected with the Lebanese Shi'ite Moslem Islamic Amal Movement, has claimed several anti-Iraqi attacks in recent years.

It claimed this year an explosion on May 12 against the offices of Iraqi Airways in Nicosia, Cyprus and similar attacks in 1982 and 1980 against the Iraqi Embassies in Paris and Rome. The organisation also claimed responsibility for suicide attacks last year in Baghdad against Iraqi Airways head offices, an Iraqi newspaper print room and the security police. According to independent sources, the toll from the latter attack was particularly heavy.

If confirmed, the latest attack by Iraq's pro-Iranian Shi'ite dissidents would appear to reflect a change of strategy announced on June 25 by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Baqer Hakim, the spokesman here for the Supreme Council of the Iraqi Islamic Revolution.

Last month, the Council, at a session attended by Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, announced that it was stepping up military operations inside Iraq.

The movement's spokesman today told AFP: "We warn the French Government and the other countries of the (Gulf) region, in particular Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, that their interests will be the target of operations by Iraqi combatants if they go on aiding Saddam," a reference to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

No 1,780

LD061717 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Communique No 1,780 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] At 1115 yesterday, an Iraqi helicopter flying near the banks of the Arvand Rud was downed by our air defense units.

As a result of the fire from the fighters of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions on the western bank of the Arvand Rud, 35 trenches and foxholes, 8 mortar launchers, and 2 Jeep-type vehicles mounted with 106-mm guns of the Saddamist mercenaries were destroyed, and over 50 of their troops were either killed or wounded.

The forces of Islam on the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam continued to consolidate their defensive positions. In the course of fire exchanges along the fronts of the western operational sector, 7 trenches, an ammunition depot, a fuel tank and a 106-mm gun emplacement of the enemy were destroyed and 10 Iraqi troops killed.

Our mighty combatants in the northwestern operational sector opened intense fire on positions of the aggressors, preventing enemy engineering activities. The fire of our combatants killed and wounded at least 15 of the Ba'thist mercenaries.

Yesterday, the enemy's long-range heavy artillery fire damaged 10 houses and a school in Abadan, causing fires in 5 different locations in the city and wounding 1 of our civilian compatriots. Enemy mortar fire hit several buildings in Khorramshahr and caused a fire in one area.

No 1,781

LD071738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Communique No 1,781 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the northwestern operational sector yesterday, exchanges of fire continued between our forces and those of Saddam. As a result of return fire from our combatants, 8 trenches, 1 observation post, and 1 enemy ammunition dump were set ablaze and destroyed, and 25 Iraqi troops were killed or

wounded. In the western operational theater, exchanges continued and were heaviest in the Samar region. Losses and casualties inflicted on the enemy in this region totalled 6 trenches and foxholes and 1 ammunition dump, with at least 15 killed or wounded.

In the southern operational region, our combatants opened fire on locations where there were weapons as well as troop positions and fortifications belonging to the Saddamist forces, as a result of which a total of 13 troops and arms bunkers and 1 truck carrying enemy troops were destroyed.

As a result of enemy mortar attacks yesterday on residential districts in Abadan, five houses and two shops sustained damage, with two fires blazing in the city. There were two fires in Khorramshahr.

No 1,782

LD081752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Communique No 1,782 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] The accurate observation and effective fire of the combative forces of Islam on enemy positions west of the Arvand Rud yesterday prevented enemy movements and destroyed a mechanical digger and 19 enemy trenches.

In the Chazzabeh sector our combatants opened fire on a group of enemy engineers; the Iraqi personnel fled after suffering casualties. In the west and northwest sectors, exchanges of fire continued; our artillery units fired on enemy bases, concentration points and supply roads. Enemy losses in these sectors were 17 slit trenches and observation posts destroyed and at least 14 killed or wounded.

Long-range enemy fire on Abadan yesterday damaged a mosque and three houses. In Khorramshahr, enemy mortar fire hit a number of buildings, causing two fires.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Discusses Timing of Next Offensive

LD061433 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1036 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The political-religious ceremonies of the auspicious Friday prayers were held throughout the country with the participation of millions of our selfless Muslim compatriots throughout the country. Tehran's committed Muslim citizens, with their extensive presence in Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares, held the glorious Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Continuing his second sermon and describing the situation on the battlefronts, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said:

[Begin recording] As the spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council I am able to inform you that today the Islamic Republic forces are enjoying the best position on the fronts since the beginning of the war. The Saddamists are suffering from the worst position, despite the noise and din reverberating around the world. Iraq's vulnerable areas have been pinpointed all along the front, our plans have been prepared, and our forces have received the necessary training and have obtained the necessary weapons and ammunition and at their stations and ready for the time when we will move. But as to when we should take action, this is among the extremely important issues at this time and has completely puzzled and perplexed the Westerners to the point of witlessness. They do not have correct yardsticks and they lack proper intelligence information from us, praise be to God. Their intelligence links have been severed and they speak with conjectures and guesses, thanks to the intelligence information placed at their disposal by such fugitive spies as the traitorous pilot who was under surveillance and who was so unworthy that he could not remain here. So how much intelligence could he give them, intelligence information which is at the disposal of first class senior commanders? It is clear that this is the level of their intelligence. For instance, a satellite can pass overhead and photograph a bus or something else in the desert or an AWACS aircraft takes photographs from the other side. [as heard] This is the level of their intelligence.

But as for us we have always maintained that our attacks are not motivated by revenge. We do not wish to kill people. We do not want our own boys to be martyred or the Iraqis to be killed, and insofar as is possible we try not to inflict a nosebleed on anyone. So should we wish to launch our operations, we must calculate a great many things: our own capabilities, the enemy's capabilities, our chosen place, the political conditions and our concrete aims. The day when we said the final attack will come, these people thought that we would carry out this action in a month's time [words indistinct]. And now we say that the final attack might take place in a year's time, it might take place in 2 months time, or it might even take place today, this afternoon. We are ready. We are fully prepared and are assessing the conditions. When we carry out certain operations we wait for some time so that Saddam's international backers can assess the position and come to realize, if possible, that this beastly Saddam — quoting the imam — is incorrigible and should be left alone so that we can solve the problem without war.

Today we have reached a position whereby the position in Iraq now is like that of the Iranian Islamic revolution in 1978. The circumstances (?depend) on our might and not on (?what goes on) inside Iraq. Saddam's situation today is similar to the circumstances of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi toward the end of 1977 and the beginning of 1978. He is faced with these circumstances. The imam's pronouncements also remain decisive. When he was in Najaf he said: The shah must go. When he was in Paris he said: The shah must go, and the Islamic Republic must be established. He never stopped insisting on this. He is gracious when he says: Saddam must go. This is our demand. [applause]

The world more or less knows about our situation, and it understands our words and what we say. Nonetheless, it is now contriving to create a set of circumstances, kicking up a dust storm and bringing about a crisis whereby it hopes to save Saddam; it has embarked on various moves. It has been defeated in all its moves; we do not know what its next stratagem is going

to be, and we have to await this in the future. It has done everything. For the past 4 or 5 months, on every possible occasion they said that Iran's final attack would coincide with this or that day. On Nowruz they said they would attack on 13 Sha'ban, for instance. They said they would attack on Imam Husayn's birthday. They said they would attack on 1 Ramadan. They said that we would attack on (?13) Ramadan. They said they would attack on 21 Ramadan. They said they would attack on 'Id al-Fitr. So every day they concoct something for themselves, some occasion and write an article forecasting things so that they can claim that they have intelligence.

Just imagine how this situation is affecting the Saddamists! To begin with, the Saddamists have no morale whatsoever and they have witnessed our assault. They have seen what our hezbollahi forces do to them in the trenches when they launch an attack. Just imagine how Saddam's unfortunate army is suffering in the trenches. Every moment it expects something. Every dark night it expects something. Every festival it has such expectations. It expects something on every religious holiday. And the Westerners keep churning things up, and these people become even more scared.

And recently two sets of analyses have been obtained from these people's pronouncements. It is said that when these people make all this noise and din about Iran, saying that Iran has no weapons, Iran is beset by differences, Iran has this and that, Iran cannot launch an attack and is procrastinating, they pursue two aims. One of these is that they want Iran to embark on a hasty attack, that it should attack before it has mustered all its capabilities so that it will not be successful. The second move which they have recently made is to shore up the morale of the Iraqi troops. This state of affairs of not knowing, the terror which they are daily expecting, and all these alerts, all these alerts have tremendously frightened these troops who are constantly clutching their rifles. So they said: Let us do something whereby Saddam will be saved from this nerve-breaking experience and his army too will be saved in the same way. These two views have emerged from their pronouncements, and deviltry lies behind all this. These people do not realize what the situation is. So I would like to assure them that what we have is nothing to do with today, tomorrow, festivals, mournings, and similar things. This depends on what is expedient for the public, on what is possible. It could take place in the month of Ramadam, in could happen in Shawwal, it could be on 'Id-e Ghadir, it could be on 'Ashura. Whenever it is expedient and this has been worked out, and whenever the leader issues the command, our forces will be ready on the battlefield. [applause]

A very ugly move which the enemies of the Islamic Republic have started at the expense of misleading the world, hoping that in this way they can extricate Saddam from the present crisis, is the turmoil which they have created in the Persian Gulf. In creating that situation they calculated as follows: They thought that either Iran would close the Strait of Hormuz and itself face hardships and get a bad name — world public opinion would condemn it, and that that would prepare the ground for any action against Iran; or, that Iran would not close the Strait, and as a result of pressures which are exerted by Saddam with the assistance of the French and the Americans — the intelligence which is provided by the Americans with the AWACS and with the assistance which is rendered by France with their Exocets and their advanced planes; and it has been reported that French pilots are guiding the actions behind the fronts, are guiding the aircraft which support the fighter planes — as a result of this pressure, if we chose not to close the Strait of Hormuz our hands would be tied and we would suffer from an economic point of view and would be unable to continue the war, and that we would also be disgraced.

However, the reverse of both calculations has come to pass. As far as losing face is concerned, the situation is quite the reverse. At the moment it is they who should now provide an answer to the world. Here we formally announce that we do not desire any insecurity in the Persian Gulf. Personally I announce here that if Iraq does not attack the ships, we will not fire a single bullet in the Persian Gulf. The whole world realizes this. Our president has confirmed this, our prime minister has confirmed this, our Ministry of Foreign Affairs has confirmed this, and the issue has become very clear. Now there is no politician in the world who believes that Iran wishes to create insecurity in the Persian Gulf. No, we know that the Persian Gulf is the sort of place where if there is any unrest the whole world will lose as a result, and we are not in favor of unrest. Of course, we will avenge ourselves, but we do not wish for unrest. This policy which we announced is being continued.

Let us say it again here; let them not misrepresent the issue, let Saddam and others not misrepresent the issue. This is our policy and we have informed the United Nations that this is our policy. But they insist on lying. The United Nations has demonstrated that it is lying when it says it is in favor of peace. If they are telling the truth — of course, on a world-wide basis they are not looking for peace — but if they are favor of security in the Persian Gulf, why do they not come forward, why do they not make any move? It has become clear that America is lying. It has become clear that France is lying. If they are telling the truth, why do they put AWACS and Exocets at the disposal of Iraq? Saudi Arabia is lying. Saddam himself is lying. They want something else. They wish to create a crisis so that they can extricate him from the crisis.

Today the world and world public opinion has been informed that the Islamic Republic's policy is to preserve security in the Persian Gulf, which is the artery of the world economy, and that this policy will continue as long as possible. However, on the other hand, we will not allow a Western or Eastern country to buy oil from Saudi Arabia but not to be able to take oil from Khark. No, this won't do. Both are the same. Either you can take oil from Khark and from Saudi Arabia, or you will not be able to take it from anywhere, and we will implement this policy. We have demonstrated that we can implement it. Now, the entire world of arrogance with all its cunning and politicking sits together at the summit conference of the industrialized world, in the Gulf Cooperation Council, and with their other allies in the region and starts hatching conspiracies; but what do they gain? Today Khark is exporting oil, the same as a month ago. Today the Islamic Republic is in control in the Persian Gulf, as it was a month ago, and can use its forces at any time and in any place it wishes. We are still maintaining the security of the Persian Gulf. Therefore, they do not gain anything from the issue, and the war should follow its course in the battlefields. Saddam has attacked

us on the ground and should be confronted on the ground, and we will extirpate Saddam and the Ba'thist Party on the ground and, God willing, we shall liberate the Iraqi people.

The childish analyses which are made by the Westerners are good for themselves. They indulge in many fanciful assumptions as to why Iran is not launching its offensive. One day they say there is disunity among military commanders. Now who has said so? It is of course said by the fugitives and their spying middlemen. They have no knowledge of our Armed Forces, but think it is the same as the former armed forces. They have no knowledge of our Revolution Guards. Our military commanders are the disciplines of the imam. The imam is their source of emulation. This commander in chief is not the same as the commander in chief under the shah. He is a source of emulation. He is the spiritual guide. When they learn of the imam's views, then from a mere conscript at the fronts to the supreme commander at the fronts, all submit to it. How can there be any disunity in a country with these principles and with these spiritual links which exist between the Armed Forces and the Guards? Never listen to these childish words.

On another occasion they say that there is disunity between responsible officials of the Islamic Republic, that the president, the Majlis speaker, and others are not united concerning the war. You [addressing Western commentators] have said many such childish things. Our president, Mr Khamene'i, is he not regarded with high esteem now by us when he is president? Twenty-two years ago when the struggle started we were among his devotees. On those days when we had not yet gone through these experiences, whenever one of us said something the other one would sign on the dotted line without looking and would confirm without hearing. During the entire 25 years we have been together in the field we have not had the slightest difference over any issue. At the moment, throughout the country, on all issues, economic, political, and military issues, and on all other affairs hich we are involved in, it is my practice that whatever decision is taken by the president I will confirm without studying it, and he has also always harbored the same good-will and good intentions toward us.

Foreign commentators do not know us and they gladden their hearts with fanciful thoughts. We do not announce all the private meetings, private discussions, and the daily consultations that we have with one another. Judging by what they hear from here or there, they imagine that we have no news of each other. Let me set your minds at rest about disagreements between the officials of the Islamic Republic: Such issues existed at the time of the liberals [when Bazargan was prime minister]. It is true, we were never in agreement with those types. We often had disagreements about the war. The nation kicked them out and they left. They have been left to their own devices. Those who are left, their government, the Majlis, the president, the judiciary, the Armed Forces, the Guards, and all others are completely united. May God never deprive us of the blessed shadow of the imam of the nation! [end recording]

Continuing his second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The rumor that we do not possess sufficient weapons is an empty nonsense. We have enough weapons. One of our important sources of weapons is Iraq itself. We have not yet used all the weapons that we captured during the Khaybar operations. Therefore, such false analyses will not achieve anything.

Nicaraguan Trade Minister Meets With Majlis Speaker

GF060559 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Mr Alejandro Martinez, Nicaraguan foreign trade minister, met the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, yesterday afternoon. During this meeting, Mr Ja'fari, minister for commerce; and (Marvi) Samavarchi, member of the Islamic Majlis commission, were also present.

Presenting a message of congratulations to Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his reelection as speaker of the Islamic Majlis, Mr Martinez expressed his pleasure at being in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and said: The Nicaraguan nation feels that it is side by side with the Iranian nation. Like you, we are also at war with the aggressive United States. Undoubtedly, it is the resistance and the valor of nations that can neutralize the plots of aggressors.

In reply, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: In this era, we have seen (?clearly) that world arrogance tramples upon international norms. World oppression initiated a war on your shores, which was not declared a war area, and attempted to shatter your revolution by creating unrest. World arrogance endeavored to endanger peace in the Persian Gulf with the assistance of France and others and created tension in the area, as you have seen. From this point of view, one of the most important obligations for you and us should be the revelation of the true nature of world arrogance. They are afraid of the fact that the revolution may spread to neighboring countries, and this will, God willing, come to pass. I am hopeful that the revolutionary morale of the nations will always be protected and nations will be more vigilant so that they can quickly foil the plots of aggressors. I am hopeful that your visit has been effective and helpful in the expansion of ties between our two countries.

Martinez Departs After Talks

LD061537 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA — The Nicaraguan trade minister Alejandro Martinez left the Iranian capital today after three days of talks with officials here on the expansion of trade relations.

Commerce minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari, who bid Martinez farewell at the airport today, said the outcome of their talks was positive. He said the two countries did not sign any agreement but said Iran made some purchases of sugar, meat, coffee and ginger and discussions were held on the sale of oil to Nicaragua.

Martinez said his talks with Iranian officials were "very fruitful" and hoped that relations between the two countries would expand.

During his stay, the Nicaraguan trade minister met with top officials here, including Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani Thursday. In that meeting, Rafsanjani said that the arrogant forces feared the spread of revolution to other countries, which, he added, would take place with the help of God. He also compared attempts by the United States to destabilize Nicaragua by the mining of its harbors with its attempts to create insecurity in the Persian Gulf with the help of France.

Martinez said, "Nicaragua is at war with the aggressive America, as you are."

Country Opposes U.S. Hosting UN Nuclear Conference

LD081202 Tehran IRNA in English 1141 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Iran's representative to the U.N. Conference on Expansion of International Cooperation in Peaceful Employment of Atomic Energy has opposed the U.S. hosting of the conference scheduled for 1986.

Speaking on the 9th day of the preliminary assembly of the conference held in Vienna, the Iranian envoy said that the reason for Iran's opposition was America's unpeaceful deployment of atomic energy in World War II, and continuation of manufacturing of nuclear weapons which contradicted objectives of the conference, that is peaceful application of atomic energy.

The speech delivered by the Iranian envoy evoked severe reaction of the U.S. envoy, who said that the statements of the Iranian representative were contrary to the spirit of understanding prevailing over the assembly.

In reply the Iranian envoy announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran had always been cooperating with developing countries on the basis of understanding and would continue to do so in future. However, it would never compromise on basic principles and its opposition against U.S. hosting of the conference was one of such principles, the Iranian representative said.

It is to be noted that preliminary measures to hold the conference have lasted for six years and the United States attached great importance to its hosting of the conference. But despite an all-out effort by the U.S. representative, the U.S. proposal to host the conference in 1986 was not approved by the preliminary committee. Belgrade is expected to be the venue of the conference and in case of any disagreement, Geneva would host the U.N. conference.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Secretly Visiting Iraq

LD062043 Tehran IRNA in English 1917 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA — A U.S. Congressional delegation is reportedly to be in Baghdad on a secret visit, it was disclosed Thursday. According to reports, the identity of the delegation members was unknown as well as the date of their arrival in Baghdad. Informed sources in Tehran view the trip as aimed at further harmonising the Baghdad-Washington policies for campaign against the Islamic revolution.

Also, with regard to the economic crisis of the Iraqi regime, it is expected that U.S. financial help for Saddam in meeting this problem is to be discussed.

The Export and Import Bank of the United States has undertaken to pay for the construction of the Iraqi oil pipeline to Aqaba port in Jordan in order to help the bankrupt Iraqi economy secure much needed funds. The Zionist regime has also promised not to attack this pipeline and is even ready to purchase some of the Iraqi oil exported via this trunkline.

It was disclosed by Iran's War Information Headquarters recently that the U.S. secretly delivered two tons of mustard gas to Iraq.

A high-ranking Pentagon official reportedly stated that the U.S. views favorably financial and arms assistance of the regional countries to Iraq. It is therefore likely that in the near future, new American weapons would arrive in Baghdad.

An American helicopter firm had previously sold Iraq 60 helicopters worth 450 million dollars capable of being converted for military use.

The visit of the American delegation to Iraq follows visits of Reagan administration officials Rumsfeld and Murphy to Baghdad and those of Iraq Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and his deputy Ismat Katani to Washington.

The U.S. congressional delegation reportedly met Thursday with Iraqi Parliament Speaker Na'im Haddad and held talks on issues of mutual interest.

French Acceptance of Hijackers as Refugees Decried

LD071634 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 7, IRNA — The hijackers of the Fokker-27 plane of the Islamic Republic had no record distinguishing them as political opponents and according to extradition agreements concerning criminals between Iran and France, the latter should not have accepted them (the hijackers) as political or military refugees.

Announcing this, the legal and parliamentary deputy foreign minister, Mojtaba Mir-Mahdi, further said today that the bilateral agreement was signed on June 24, 1954 and obliged the two countries to extradite non-political criminals at the request of either of the two signatories.

Mir-Mahdi said Iran maintained that the acceptance of the hijackers as political refugees ignored international laws and regulations, adding that such acts only encourage hijacking and similar crimes.

The Fokker-27 plane was hijacked on June 11 by four counter-revolutionary Iranian military men and was taken to Paris.

Retaliatory Action Possible

LD071737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1643 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] The legal and parliamentary undersecretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of our country today in an interview said: The hijackers of Iran's Fokker-27 plane have police records for non-political crimes; according to a treaty signed by Iran and France for extradition of criminals, the French Government cannot accept them as political or military refugees. He added: The treaty for extradition of criminals between Iran and France, passed on 24 June 1964, obliges the two countries to hand over non-political criminals on the request of the other country. Therefore, the step taken by the French Government in accepting the hijackers of the plane as political refugees is in violation of international laws and regulations. Such disregard can create the right to retaliatory action.

Tehran Cites Report on Attack Against Primrose

GF080747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] According to *AL-KHALIJ*, published daily in one of the GCC countries, the Liberian-registered oil tanker *Primrose*, which had been chartered by a Japanese company, was attacked Thursday by an unidentified aircraft after it had taken on a load of oil at Ra's Tanurah in Saudi Arabia. The tanker is due to arrive in Al-Fujayrah soon for repairs.

More Volunteers Depart Tehran for War Fronts

LD061806 Tehran IRNA in English 1433 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA — A large number of volunteers left Tehran for the southern and western fronts on Thursday after attending a ceremony in front of the former U.S. espionage center (embassy).

The volunteers who have already been to the fronts and are combat experienced were seen off at the bus terminal by their relatives and a large crowd of local people.

Before their departure, prayers were held and the heroic and spiritual battle chant calling for the continuation of the war until final victory over the Ba'thist regime of Baghdad was chanted.

Saudi Arabia To Buy 40 Tornado Aircraft

GF080543 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] On the basis of an agreement signed between Saudi Arabia and the British Aerospace Company, Saudi Arabia will purchase 40 Tornado aircraft from Britain. The agreement will be of benefit to Italian factories which construct the Tornado aircraft.

It should be recalled that the United States recently equipped Saudi Arabia with Stinger missiles and other sophisticated equipment.

President Khamene'i Receives SAIRI Spokesman

LD080848 Tehran IRNA in English 0842 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 8 IRNA — In a meeting with President 'Ali Khamene'i Saturday, the spokesman for the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), Hoj. Mohammad Baqer Hakim, submitted the latest report on the Iraqi mobilisation forces in war fronts, activities of SAIRI's Executive Committee, and cooperation of Iraqi combatant Kurds.

President Khamane'i reiterated the necessity of unity among all Iraqi combatant forces for the liberation of their Islamic homeland from domination of present Iraqi regime. He referred to the SAIRI as a powerful centre which had frightened oppressor powers.

The president stressed that SAIRI was the hope of committed and combatant Iraqis and issued necessary guidelines in connection with subjects discussed during the meeting.

IRGC Deputy Commander Briefs Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD062033 Tehran IRNA in English 1833 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA — Deputy Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) 'Ali Sham'khani met and conferred with Majlis speaker and imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Thursday.

During the meeting, the deputy commander gave a report on the general situation of the IRGC, security issues of the country and the Iraqi-imposed war to the Majlis speaker.

Gharazi Interviewed on Oil Production Levels

LD071313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] Following his briefing of President Khamene'i on oil production and export, Petroleum Minister Gharazi spoke to our correspondent, saying there is no problem as far as the continuation of production and export of Iranian oil within the framework of our quota is concerned. He also answered questions put to him by our correspondent with regard to the production and export of Iranian oil.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] You recently reported to the president on the production and marketing of Iranian oil. Would you please tell us about this particular situation as well as the situation on Khark?

[Gharazi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. During the past 4 years of the war, Iraq and its supporters have always tried to present the security situation in the Persian Gulf and the [word indistinct] in the Persian Gulf as dangerous and impracticable. The report submitted to His Excellency Khamene'i stated that during this war, and despite the military pressures applied on Khark, Iran has completely maintained its OPEC quota. Certain military difficulties have been created for Khark, but they have never prevented the export of our oil. Khark enjoys

total security. Needless to say, sometimes certain military problems emerge; however, they have not stopped the export of oil from Khark. Thank God, the situation is not as bad as others portray it. The situation they present is incorrect.

[Correspondent] [passage indistinct]

[Gharazi] We enjoy a much better situation and can produce more than (?4 million) barrels per day. We can produce more than this and we can also export more. However, owing to the market situation as well as our obligation within OPEC we have no intention of producing more. The fact is that, thank God, all sorts of possibilities are available to us.

[Correspondent] [passage indistinct]

[Gharazi] [words indistinct] For the past 20 years the export of oil has involved the use of highly expensive jetties and complex technology, requiring oil tankers of over 250,000 tons to take berth alongside our jetties. (?Our systems) enable us to make use of simpler solutions, cheaper means as well as more regular schemes. These exports could take place by means of oil pipelines under the sea and by certain other means. Therefore, we have not overlooked such means.

[Correspondent] [passage indistinct]

[Gharazi] We have, in practice, proceeded with the purchase of the required technologies as well as with the relevant pipe-laying. [end recording]

Montazeri Message Opens Hajj Seminar in Tehran

LD081230 Tehran IRNA in English 1125 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — A joint three-day seminar of ulema, managers and supervisors of hajj pilgrimage caravans for this year opened at the 12,000-seat hall of Azadi stadium here with a message from Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri this morning.

The most dreadful treason that imperialists and their lackeys committed throughout the history of Islam was to distract attention of great Muslim ummah from divine Islamic objectives and sociopolitical philosophy of Islam, especially hajj rituals, the message said.

It added that the oppressors first disseminated the idea of separation of religion from politics and by promulgation of this policy through their subservient agents and royal court religious personalities, deviated unaware Muslims from realities of their religion.

As a result a Zionist minority with the help of the U.S., the West and the Soviet Union dominated Al-Aqsa Mosque in the heart of the Islamic world as well as the fate of oppressed Palestinian people, the message noted.

The idea of domination over territories between the Niles to the Euphrates, aimed at attacking the region whenever necessary on the one hand and suppress any movement by the Muslim people on the other, Ayatollah Montazeri's message read. [as received]

It further continued by saying that with the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, all such baseless political thoughts proved to be futile.

One of the achievements of the Islamic revolution, the message noted, was that it proved Islam was a dynamic religion and could liberate mankind contrary to vicious propaganda staged by the enemies and false interpretations by ignorant friends.

The message called on all personalities involved in hajj programming to explain this great religious task to the pilgrims and further inform them of the true nature of the rituals.

To this end, every year a week should be allocated to hajj rituals to discuss relevant issues, the message said, calling on Iranian hajj pilgrims to stand as an example for other pilgrims.

The message concluded by hoping that through a complete coordination, the way would be paved for a united march towards Al-Aqsa Mosque and for the liberation of occupied Islamic lands.

Energy Ministry Issues Statement on Power Shortages

LD090832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] According to our correspondent, the Ministry of Energy has issued a statement explaining that owing to a rapid increase in the consumption of electricity and low production by the country's hydropower generators due to the current drought, the national grid is regrettably facing great limitations. Consequently, compatriots are requested to be as economical as possible in the usage of electricity so that the extent of power failures is reduced.